



Issue 94 | January 2021

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant Awards Announced**

HUD recently [awarded](#) \$4.91 million in Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant funds to eleven communities in: Akron, OH; Atlanta, GA; Atlantic City, NJ; Cincinnati, OH; Easton, PA; Fayetteville, NC; Fresno, CA; Houston, TX; Montgomery, AL; Pittsburgh, PA; and Toledo, OH. These grants will help local leaders craft comprehensive, homegrown plans to redevelop severely distressed HUD-assisted housing and transform neighborhoods. Read the [grantee project summaries](#).

### **Survey Results from Past Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grantees**

This [two-pager](#) highlights survey results from past Planning Grantees, showing their accomplishments since the planning period ended. Thank you to the FY 2010-2015 Planning Grantees who responded to the survey!

### **CDC Eviction Moratorium Extended to January 31, 2021**

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 extended the CDC Eviction Moratorium Order until January 31, 2021. Under the Order and extension, tenants cannot be evicted for nonpayment of rent, provided tenants sign the declaration attached to the Order. Tenants who previously submitted a declaration should not be asked to resubmit and should have continued protections until January 31, 2021. Information on the CDC Order, including FAQs and the declaration form, can be found through [HUD's website](#).

### **HUD COVID-19 Resources**

[HUD's website](#) includes FAQs and other resources to help guide decisions on your response to COVID-19. One such resource, [Notice PIH-2020-24](#), extends the deadline to expend CARES Act Supplemental Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Funds to December 31, 2021.

## EVENTS AND TOOLS

### **Tools for Parents with Children Learning from Home**

Learning Heroes offers free [online tools](#) for parents with children who are learning from home, including short videos, projects, schedules, and a readiness check for children's math and reading skills.

### **Webinar: Public Transit for Essential Services During COVID-19**

Local public transit agencies are offering nontraditional transportation for groceries, medical appointments, and other essential services during COVID-19, as well as Wi-Fi enabled buses in

communities that lack internet access. A recent [webinar](#) launched this partnership between HUD and the Department of Transportation.

#### **Webinar: Increasing Flu Vaccination in HUD-Assisted Communities**

HUD and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) are working together to increase flu vaccination coverage among HUD-assisted residents. A [webinar](#) was held for pilot communities and HRSA-funded health centers interested in partnering with public housing agencies.

#### **Webinar: How to Support Commercial Corridors Affected by COVID-19**

Hosted by the Urban Institute, this recent [webinar](#) explores how governmental and nonprofit organizations can support commercial corridors affected by COVID-19. Speakers discussed the impacts of retail vacancy and new public health standards on commercial corridors.

## RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

#### **Toolkit for Preserving Unsubsidized Affordable Housing**

This [toolkit](#) from Enterprise provides recommendations and tools for small- to medium-sized unsubsidized affordable housing preservation projects.

#### **Report on Youth Engagement in Promise Neighborhoods**

A [report](#) from the Urban Institute discusses strategies for youth engagement – including mentorship, leadership development, case management, and community-based service learning – and provides several examples of successful youth engagement in Promise Neighborhoods.

#### **HOPE VI Demolition-Only Study Finds Positive Earnings Outcomes for Children**

A [working paper](#) released by the National Bureau of Economic Research found that on average children who lived in HOPE VI demolition-only projects earn 14% more at age 26 relative to children in comparable non-HOPE VI projects.

## GRANTEES IN THE NEWS

#### **Flint Celebrates Virtual Grand Opening**

Flint celebrated the grand opening of Clark Commons, the first of four phases of housing development that are part of Flint's Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The City produced a [short video](#) for the event, featuring partners, residents, and the new housing.

#### **Norwalk's Public Art and Placemaking**

CT Insider Norwalk featured an [article](#) about a local artist's basketball court mural, the first of five public art installations that are part of the revitalization of a park at the center of Norwalk's Choice Neighborhood.

#### **Boston Honored with Affordable Housing Award**

Flat 9 at Whittier, a 92-unit mixed-income housing development that is part of Boston's Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant, was [awarded](#) the Charles L. Edson Tax Credit Excellence Award in the HUD Housing Preservation category.

#### **Memphis Tells Visual Story of South City's Revitalization**

This [short video](#) tells a nuanced story of the revitalization of South City and ties together the

Housing, People, and Neighborhood components of the Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant in Memphis.

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